reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in armed forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Appointments and selection to Armed Forces are made strictly on merit and no reservation on the basis of Caste, Community, area or class is provided.

Sainik Recruitment Boards

† *460. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where Sainik Recruitment Boards exist;

(b) whether Government propose to set-up a Women Sainik Recruitment Board in Bihar for motivating contribution of Women in the Army; and

(c) if so, by when and at which places?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House *(See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

The States where me recruitment offices for recruitment of Personnel Below Officers Rank/Sailors/Airmen exist in respect of Army, Navy and Air Force are enumerated below:

ARMY

Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland, Orissa, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

NAVY

Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar,

West Bengal, Assam, Orissa, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, Mizoram, Karnataka, Goa, Andaman & Nicobar and Meghalaya.

AIRFORCE

Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Bihar, Assam, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Generation cost of Nuclear Energy

† 3355. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power is being generated in the field of nuclear energy in the country;

(b) if so, the annual average quantum of power generated in this field during the last three years;

(c) the established capacity of power generation in this field;

(d) whether an assessment has also been made regarding the cost of power generation in this field; and

(e) if so, what is the average cost of power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The electricity produced through nuclear energy in the country for the last 3 years *i.e.,* 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 has been 12001 Million Units (MUs), 13394 MUs and 17213 MUs exceeding the target by 23%, 13% and 32% respectively.

(c) The present nuclear power generation capacity in the country is 2720 MWe.

(d) and (e) The weighted average cost of production for all the units and of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) is 157 paise/ KWh. The cost of production does not include the profit element and also the levies of 10 paise/KWh towards decommissioning, renovation, modernisation, and Research and Development.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.